

012304
11324 U.S. PTO

PTO/SB/05 (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0032
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

**UTILITY
PATENT APPLICATION
TRANSMITTAL**

(Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 CFR 1.53(b))

<i>Attorney Docket No.</i>	ALS-017CP
<i>First Inventor</i>	Bryan A. Thurston
<i>Title</i>	REINFORCED LOCKING CONNECTOR
<i>Express Mail Label No.</i>	EV311021469US

APPLICATION ELEMENTS

See MPEP chapter 600 concerning utility patent application contents.

1. Fee Transmittal Form (e.g., PTO/SB/17)
(Submit an original, and a duplicate for fee processing)
2. Applicant claims small entity status.
See 37 CFR 1.27.
3. Specification [Total Pages **16**]
(preferred arrangement set forth below)
 - Descriptive title of the invention
 - Cross Reference to Related Applications
 - Statement Regarding Fed sponsored R & D
 - Reference to sequence listing, a table, or a computer program listing appendix
 - Background of the Invention
 - Brief Summary of the Invention
 - Brief Description of the Drawings (if filed)
 - Detailed Description
 - Claim(s)
 - Abstract of the Disclosure
4. Drawing(s) (35 U.S.C. 113) [Total Sheets **3**]
5. Oath or Declaration [Total Sheets **1**]
 - a. Newly executed (original or copy)
 - b. Copy from a prior application (37 CFR 1.63(d))
(for continuation/divisional with Box 18 completed)
 - i. **DELETION OF INVENTOR(S)**
Signed statement attached deleting inventor(s)
named in the prior application,
see 37 CFR 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b).
6. Application Data Sheet. See 37 CFR 1.76

ADDRESS TO: MS Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

7. CD-ROM or CD-R in duplicate, large table or Computer Program (Appendix)
8. Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission
(if applicable, all necessary)
 - a. Computer Readable Form (CRF)
 - b. Specification Sequence Listing on:
 - i. CD-ROM or CD-R (2 copies); or
 - ii. Paper
 - c. Statements verifying identity of above copies

ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION PARTS

9. Assignment Papers (cover sheet & document(s))
10. 37 CFR 3.73(b) Statement
(when there is an assignee) Power of Attorney
11. English Translation Document (if applicable)
12. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)/PTO-1449 Copies of IDS Citations
13. Preliminary Amendment
14. Return Receipt Postcard (MPEP 503)
(Should be specifically itemized)
15. Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)
(if foreign priority is claimed)
16. Nonpublication Request under 35 U.S.C. 122 (b)(2)(B)(i).
Applicant must attach form PTO/SB/35 or its equivalent.
17. Other: _____

18. If a CONTINUATING APPLICATION, check appropriate box, and supply the requisite information below and in the first sentence of the specification following the title, or in an Application Data Sheet under 37 CFR 1.76:

Continuation Divisional Continuation-in-part (CIP) of prior application No.: **10/202514**

Prior application information: Examiner **Xuong My Chung Trans** Art Unit: **2833**

For CONTINUATION OR DIVISIONAL APPS only: The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which an oath or declaration is supplied under Box 5b, is considered a part of the disclosure of the accompanying continuation or divisional application and is hereby incorporated by reference. The incorporation can only be relied upon when a portion has been inadvertently omitted from the submitted application parts.

19. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

Customer Number: **00959** OR Correspondence address below

Name	LAHIVE & COCKFIELD, LLP Thomas V. Smurzynski				
------	---	--	--	--	--

Address	28 State Street				
---------	-----------------	--	--	--	--

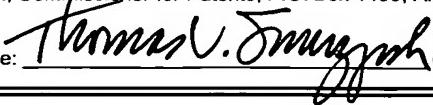
City	Boston	State	MA	Zip Code	02109
------	--------	-------	----	----------	-------

Country	US	Telephone	(617) 227-7400	Fax	(617) 742-4214
---------	----	-----------	----------------	-----	----------------

Name (Print/Type)	Thomas V. Smurzynski	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	24,798
Signature			Date
			January 23, 2004

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EV311021469US, in an envelope addressed to: MS Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: January 23, 2004

Signature:  (Thomas V. Smurzynski)U.S.P.T.O.
10/763279
17548
012304

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

FEE TRANSMITTAL for FY 2004

Effective 10/01/2003, Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

 Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$ 385.00)

Complete if Known

Application Number	Not Yet Assigned
Filing Date	January 23, 2004
First Named Inventor	Bryan A. Thurston
Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Art Unit	2833
Attorney Docket No.	ALS-017CP

METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)

 Check Credit Card Money Order Other None
 Deposit Account:

Deposit Account Number 12-0080

Deposit Account Name Lahive & Cockfield, LLP

The Director is authorized to: (check all that apply)

- Charge fee(s) indicated below Credit any overpayments
 Charge any additional fee(s) or any underpayment of fee(s)
 Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee to the above-identified deposit account.

FEE CALCULATION (continued)

3. ADDITIONAL FEES

Large Entity	Small Entity	Fee Description	Fee Paid
Fee Code (\$)	Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1051 130	2051 65	Surcharge – late filing fee or oath	
1052 50	2052 25	Surcharge – late provisional filing fee or cover sheet.	
1053 130	1053 130	Non-English specification	
1812 2,520	1812 2,520	For filing a request for ex parte reexamination	
1804 920*	1804 920*	Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action	
1805 1,840*	1805 1,840*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action	
1251 110	2251 55	Extension for reply within first month	
1252 420	2252 210	Extension for reply within second month	
1253 950	2253 475	Extension for reply within third month	
1254 1,480	2254 740	Extension for reply within fourth month	
1255 2,010	2255 1,005	Extension for reply within fifth month	
1401 330	2401 165	Notice of Appeal	
1402 330	2402 165	Filing a brief in support of an appeal	
1403 290	2403 145	Request for oral hearing	
1451 1,510	1451 1,510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding	
1452 110	2452 55	Petition to revive – unavoidable	
1453 1,330	2453 665	Petition to revive - unintentional	
1501 1,330	2501 665	Utility issue fee (or reissue)	
1502 480	2502 240	Design issue fee	
1503 640	2503 320	Plant issue fee	
1460 130	1460 130	Petitions to the Commissioner	
1807 50	1807 50	Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q)	
1806 180	1806 180	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt	
8021 40	8021 40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)	
1809 770	2809 385	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR 1.129(a))	
1810 770	2810 385	For each additional invention to be examined (37CFR 1.129(b))	
1801 770	2801 385	Request for Continued Examination (RCE)	
1802 900	1802 900	Request for expedited examination of a design application	
Other fee (specify)			

SUBTOTAL (1) (\$ 385.00)

*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid

SUBTOTAL (3) (\$ 0.00)

**or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above

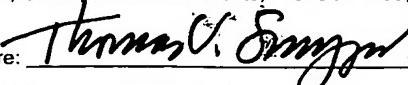
SUBMITTED BY

(Complete if applicable)

Name (Print/Type)	Thomas V. Smurzynski	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	24,798	Telephone	(617) 227-7400
Signature			Date	January 23, 2004	

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EV311021469US, in an envelope addressed to: MS Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: January 23, 2004

Signature:  (Thomas V. Smurzynski)